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S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 3011

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJ: STUDY ON USE OF WARNING TIME

REF: A. STATE 76718 B. USNATO 2909 C. STATE 277535 (DEC 74)

SUMMARY: AT MAY 26 MEETING ON STUDY OF USE OF WARNING TIME, JOINT WORKING GROUP (JWG) RECEIVED BRIEFINGS BY INT'L MILITARY STAFF ON WARNING OF WAR PROCESS AND NATO ALERT SYSTEM. FOLLOWING BRIEFINGS, DISCUSSION FOCUSED ON OBJECTIVES OF STUDY. CO-CHAIRMAN AND SOME REPS PROPOSED THAT STUDY SHOULD FOCUS ON MEASURES WHICH NATO AS A WHOLE COULD TAKE TO MAKE BEST USE OF WARNING TIME TO IMPLEMENT VARIOUS CIVIL AND MILITARY MEASURES NEEDED TO PREPARE NATO FOR WAR. US, UK AND CANADIAN REPS STRESSED THAT STUDY GROUP SHOULD FORMULATE MEASURES WHICH NATIONS COULD TAKE TO MAKE BEST USE OF WARNING TIME PRIOR TO IMPLEMENTATION OF NATOALERT SYSTEM. SHAPE REP PROPOSED THAT JWG EXAMINE NATO ALERT SYSTEM AND ATTACH TIME INDICES TO CERTAIN CRUCIAL AND IMPORTANT MEASURES FOR PURPOSE OF RELATING THESE TO AMOUNT OF WARNING TIME AVAILABLE IN VARIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES. CHAIRMAN HUMPHREYS AGREED TO SHAPE REP'S PROPOSAL AND OUTLINED FOUR
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PROPOSITIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE JWG AT ITS NEXT MEETING. BEFORE NEXT JWG MEETING, MISSION WILL CIRCULATE ALTERNATE OUTLINE OF OBJECTIVES FOCUSING ON PREPARATORY MEASURES WHICH NATIONS COULD TAKE TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF WARNING TIME PRIOR

REPEAT PRIOR TO IMPLEMENTATION OF NATO ALERT SYSTEM. END SUMMARY.

1. AT MAY 26 MEETING ON STUDY OF THE USE OF WARNING TIME, JWG RECEIVED BRIEFINGS BY INT'L MILITARY STAFF ON WARNING OF WAR PROCESS AND NATO ALERT SYSTEM. IN HIS OPENING REMARKS, CO-CHAIRMAN HUMPHREYS INTRODUCED MAJOR GEN THORPE WHO REPLACES MG TOMMASINI AS OTHER CO-CHAIRMAN OF JWG.

2. FIRST BRIEFING (PRESENTED BY GEN FOURNAIS) OUTLINED WARNING OF WAR PROCESS AS FOLLOWS:

A. NORMAL PEACETIME.

B. NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICES IDENTIFY CHANGES IN THE RELATIONS BETWEEN NATO AND WARSAW PACT. THESE CHANGES MAY BE MILITARY, POLITICAL OR ECONOMIC IN CHARACTER OR A COMBINATION.

C. NATO INCREASES ITS OWN INTELLIGENCE WATCH AND ASSESSMENT CAPABILITY. INTELLIGENCE EXPECTS TO PROVIDE WARNING IF SOVIETS TAKE CERTAIN PREPARATORY MILITARY MEASURES OF A WARLIKE NATURE.

D. WARNING - ANY NOTIFICATION BY NATO INTELLIGENCE, BASED ON THE SUM OF AVAILABLE INDICATIONS, THAT WARLIKE PREPARATIONS ARE IN PROGRESS.

E. WARNING TIME - THE PERIOD BETWEEN THE INITIAL "WARNING" AND THE OUTBREAK OF WAR OR CANCELLATION OF "WARNING".

3. SECOND BRIEFING (PRESENTED BY COL ALEXANDER) FOCUSED ON STATES OF COUNTER SURPRISE MILITARY SYSTEM AND STAGES OF FORMAL ALERT SYSTEM AS OUTLINED IN MC67/3 (FINAL) AND MAJOR NATO COMMANDERS' ALERT SYSTEM (S1/72).

4. COMMENTING ON WARNING OF WAR PROCESS BRIEFING, CHAIRMAN HUMPHREYS SAID THAT PRESENT STUDY WAS A NATO EFFORT AND SHOULD FOCUS ON MEASURES WHICH NATO AS A WHOLE COULD TAKE TO MAKE BEST USE OF WARNING TIME TO IMPLEMENT THE VARIOUS MILITARY AND CIVIL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (CEP) MEASURES NEEDED TO PUT NATO ONTO A WAR FOOTING. HE POINTED OUT THAT SINCE STUDY WAS A NATO EXERCISE, STUDY OBJECTIVES SHOULD FOCUS ON
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PERIOD BETWEEN THE INITIAL WARNING BY NATO INTELLIGENCE AND THE OUTBREAK OF WAR OR CANCELLATION OF WARNING (PARA 2(E) ABOVE).

5. IMS REP (FOURNAIS) SAID THAT MC 161/75 CONFERENCE HAD CHANGED WARNING OF WAR SECTION OF DOCUMENT TO PLACE EMPHASIS ON INDICATORS OF WARLIKE PREPARATIONS RATHER THAN ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE WP INTENT. HE STRESSED THAT DECISION MAKING PROCESSES SHOULD NOT BE DELAYED WHILE AWAITING PRECISE PROOF OF WARSAW PACT INTENT. CITING THE 1968 CZECHOSLOVAKIAN CRISIS, HE POINTED OUT THAT NATIONS WOULD PROBABLY TAKE ACTIONS TO INCREASE THEIR OWN PREPAREDNESS PRIOR TO PROMULGATION OF NATO WARNING (PARA 2D ABOVE).

6. UK REP (LEGGE) SAID THAT IF STUDY WERE RESTRICTED TO THE WARNING TIME AS DEFINED IN BRIEFING (PARA 2E ABOVE), THEN NATO WOULD IMPLEMENT THE VARIOUS STATES/STAGES OF THE NATO ALERT SYSTEM TO PREPARE FOR WAR.

7. US REP (WITKO) SAID THAT STUDY GROUP SHOULD FORMULATE MEASURES WHICH NATIONS COULD TAKE TO MAKE BEST USE OF WARNING TIME PRIOR TO MOBILIZATION WITH OBJECTIVE OF DETERRING AGGRESSION AND INCREASING DEFENSIVE READINESS. CONTINUING, HE SAID THAT STUDY SHOULD FOCUS ON NATIONAL POLITICAL, MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ACTIONS PRIOR REPEAT PRIOR TO PROMULGATION OF NATO WARNING IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE AN ORDERLY TRANSITION FROM PEACE TO WAR UPON IMPLEMENTATION OF NATO ALERT SYSTEM.

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8. CANADIAN REP (SHEFFIELD) AGREED WITH US/UK COMMENTS AND SUGGESTED THAT JWG EXAMINE NATIONAL PROCEDURES IN PREPARING FOR WAR. CHAIRMAN HUMPHREYS REPLIED THAT CATALOG OF NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURES HAD BEEN COMPILED BY DRC ABOUT FIVE YEARS AGO.

9. BELGIAN REP (DE MILD) SAID THAT HE DID NOT HAVE CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF JWG STUDY OBJECTIVES SINCE NATO ALERT SYSTEM WOULD PROBABLY BE IMPLEMENTED AT THE SAME TIME AS PROMULGATION OF NATO'S WARNING.

10. US REP POINTED OUT THAT DPC AGREED TO TERMS OF REFERENCE AND TITLE OF STUDY ON USE OF WARNING TIME PRIOR TO THE NEW DEFINITIONS OF WARNING AND WARNING TIME OUTLINED IN MC 161/65, PART I, SECTION 6. HE SAID THAT JWG SHOULD NOT ADDRESS THIS

PERIOD OF WARNING TIME, BUT THE PERIOD STARTING WHEN NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICES IDENTIFY CHANGES IN RELATIONS BETWEEN NATO AND WARSAW PACT UP TO IMPLEMENTATION OF NATO ALERT SYSTEM.

11. SHAPE REP (MORSE) SUGGESTED THAT JWG DEVELOP A SERIES OF SCENARIOS SHOWING HOW NATO ALERT SYSTEM IS IMPLEMENTED BY
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NATIONS IN VARIOUS STAGES AND AMOUNT OF TIME REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT IMPORTANT MEASURES. HE SAID OBJECTIVE OF SUCH STUDY WOULD BE TO IDENTIFY THOSE ACTIONS WHICH COULD BE TAKEN TO SPEED UP THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THENATO ALERT SYSTEM.

12. CHAIRMAN HUMPHREYS AGREED WITH SHAPE REP PROPOSALS AND PRESENTED FOLLOWING FOUR PROPOSITIONS FOR CONSIDERATIO BY JWG AT NEXT MEETING:

A. JWG PROPOSED STUDY SHOULD BE NATO EFFORT, FOCUSING ON MEASURES WHICH NATO AS A WHOLE COULD TAKE TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF WARNING TIME TO IMPLEMENT VARIOUS CIVIL AND MILITARY MEASURES NEEDED TO PREPARE NATO FOR WAR. NATIONAL ACTIONS ARE RELEVANT ONLY TO THE EXTENT THAT THEY CONTRIBUTE TO NATO ACTIONS.

B. NATO ALERT SYSTEMS DOES NOT REQUIRE MODIFICATION BUT SERVES AS A CATALOG OF MILITARY AND CIVILMEASURES NEEDED TO PUT NATO ONTO A WAR FOOTING.

C. EXCLUDE FROM STUDY IMPLEMENTATION OF COUNTER SURPRISE MILITARY SYSTEM-- STATES ORANGE AND SCARLET.

D. STARTING POINT FOR STUDY SHOULD BE WARNING OF WAR PROCESS DEFINED AS "THE POINT AT WHICH NATO HAS SUFFICIENT CONCRETE EVIDENCE AVAILABLE THAT WARSAW PACT HAS STARTED WAR PREPARATIONS TO JUSTIFY OVERT COUNTER-MEASURES BY NATO".

13. IN SUMMING UP, CHAIRMAN HUMPHREYS REQUESTED JWG REPS TO CONSIDER HIS FOUR PROPOSITIONS AND THE PROPOSAL BY SHAPE REP ON THE WAYS AND MEANS TO IMPROVE IMPLEMENTATIONOF NATO ALERT SYSTEM. ELABORATING ON SHAPE REP PROPOSALS, HUMPHREYS SAID THAT JWG SHOULD ATTEMPT TO ATTACH TIME INDICES TO CERTAIN CRUCIAL AND IMPORTANT MEASURES OF ALERT SYSTEM AND TO RELATE THAT TO AMOUNT OF WARNING TIME AVAILABLE IN VARIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES. HUMPHREYS CLOSED THE MEETING BY STATING THAT JWG WOULD MEET AGAIN DURING WEEK OF JUNE 9.

14. MISSION COMMENT: STUDY APPROACH OUTLINED BY HUMPHREYS IS CLEARLY UNACCEPTABLE SINCE IT FOCUSSES ON MATCHING(A) SCENARIO-ORIENTED WARNING TIMES AS PROPOSED BY SHAPE REP, WITH
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(B) TIMES REQUIRED FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF CERTAIN MEASURES ENVISAGED
IN NATO ALERT SYSTEM. IN OUR VIEW, INITIAL STUDY FOCUS SHOULD BE
ON MEASURES WHICH NATIONS COULD TAKE TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF
WARNING TIME PRIOR REPEAT PRIOR TO IMPLEMENTATION OF NATO ALERT
SYSTEM, AS INSTRUCTED IN REF C. BEFORE NEXT JWG MEETING, MISSION
WILL CIRCULATE ALTERNATE OUTLINE OF OBJECTIVES TO CONVEY LATTER
FOCUS FOR STUDY.

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